

# HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY CURRICULUM

48 Credits

## Core Health Psychology Courses (all)

- Health Psychology I
- Health Psychology II
- Research Methods and Data Analysis in Behavioral Health

## Core Psychology Courses (pick 3)

- Personality Psychology
- Social Psychology
- Developmental Psychology
- Evolutionary Psychology
- Cognitive Neuroscience

## Depth Requirement (pick 1)

- Clinical Neuropsych Assessment
- Behavioral/Cognitive Intervention
- Cancer Epidemiology
- Cancer: Causes, Treatment, & Disparities
- Psycho-Oncology

## Methods & Prof. Development (all)

- Univariate Statistics I
- Univariate Statistics II
- Multivariate Analysis
- Professional Issues in Psychology

## Advanced Methods & Pedagogy (pick 1)

- Hierarchical Linear Modeling
- Linear Structural Equation Modeling
- College Teaching Pedagogy
- Biostatistical or Epidemiologic Methods (e.g., R, SAS, STATA, ArcGIS, Meta-Analysis)

## Individually-tailored Electives

- Select 14 additional credits tailored toward training goals

# GRADUATE FACULTY

## Faculty with Health-Related Interests

**Michael Hoerger, PhD, MSCR** - Health psychology, adult mental health, psycho-oncology, palliative care, personality, emotion, decision making, depression, measurement, translational science

**Lisa Molix, PhD** - Intergroup relations; health and well-being among marginalized populations

**Damian Murray, PhD** - Evolutionary psychology, interpersonal relationships, disease avoidance

**Bonnie Nastasi, PhD** - Culturally appropriate health promotion and health risk prevention

## Additional Graduate Faculty

**Courtney Baker, PhD** - Early childhood, prevention of socioemotional and academic problems

**Paul Colombo, PhD** - Memory and aging, music-based mentoring and cognition

**Michael Cunningham, PhD** - Adolescent development in diverse contexts

**Jill Daniel, PhD** - Hormones and behavior

**Gary Dohanich, PhD** - Steroid action, neurotransmitters, learning and memory

**Sarah Gray, PhD** - Clinical psychology, early childhood

**Jeffrey Lockman, PhD** - Infancy, development of spatial representation

**Julie Markant, PhD** - Infant learning, selective attention, neuroscience

**Laurie O'Brien, PhD** - Stigma, stereotype-threat, legitimizing myths

**Stacy Overstreet, PhD** - Resilience in children exposed to violence

**Janet Ruscher, PhD** - Prejudice and stereotyping in communication



# Health Psychology

The Tulane University Department of Psychology offers PhD training in Health Psychology. Research interests include psycho-oncology, health disparities, health in marginalized populations, disease avoidance, and health promotion and risk reduction interventions.

**Application Deadline:  
December 1st**

[psych.tulane.edu](http://psych.tulane.edu)



## RESEARCH MILESTONES

### Thesis

- Students must complete an empirical Master's Thesis; the MS degree is awarded en route to the PhD, when students have earned at least 24 graduate credits and successfully have defended the thesis

### Preliminary Exam

- After completing the MS, students complete the preliminary examination comprising a one day in-house examination of developing expertise in the theories and methods of health psychology and either a NRSA-style grant proposal or Psychological Bulletin-type literature review

### Dissertation

- After successfully completing preliminary examinations, students complete an empirical PhD dissertation

## RESEARCH PARTNERS

### Local Healthcare Systems

- Tulane Medical Center
- Tulane Cancer Center
- Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System
- University Medical Center
- LSU Health Science Center

### Local Health Research Organizations

- Louisiana Cancer Research Center
- Louisiana Public Health Institute

### Regional/National Research Networks

- Louisiana Clinical and Translational Science (LA CaTS) Center
- University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS) Partner Network
- Palliative Care Research Cooperative (PCRC)

## MENTORSHIP

### Multifaceted Mentorship

- PhD students receive mentorship from a primary mentor and two additional advisors that round out a Student Planning and Evaluation Committee

### Tiered Mentorship

- Mentorship is provided using a tiered mentorship model designed to train PhD students to become the next generation of mentors

### Outcomes

- PhD graduates of our department often advance to academic positions

## FUNDING

Admissions letters detail funding agreements. Typically students receive a tuition waiver valued at approximately \$50,000/year, a stipend of approximately \$19,000/year for up to 5 years, and benefits such as subsidized health insurance. Supplemental summer funding has also been available in recent years. Students funded on external research grants are often compensated at higher rates.

## NEW ORLEANS

New Orleans is the 50<sup>th</sup> largest city in the U.S., with about 1/4 of the state's population falling in the metro region. The average temperature is 70 degrees, rarely falling below freezing. New Orleans has two professional sports teams (football, basketball), several minor league teams, and opportunities to play in many year-round community leagues. The culture values diversity and open-mindedness and thrives on music, night-life, and cuisine.

